

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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13-12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAB-01

SAM-01 IO-11 SCCT-01 /071 W  
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R 111506Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6940  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 0773

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JO

SUBJECT: JORDAN AND THE WEST BANK

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED: JORDAN MEDIA 11 FEBRUARY CARRIED SEVERAL ITEMS REGARDING JORDAN-WEST BANK RELATIONS. PLO CHAIRMAN ARAFAT'S DENIAL AS REPORTED ON SYRIA RADIO THAT HE SENT LETTER TO EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMI ABOUT RECENT JORDANIAN PARLIAMENTARY MOVES (FBIS 100916Z FEB 76) WAS EXPANDED ON BY LOCAL PRESS TO INCLUDE CLAIM THAT SEVERAL LEADERS (UNIDENTIFIED) STRESSED THEY HAD ADVANCED KNOWLEDGE OF JORDANIAN ACTIONS WHICH, IN THEIR VIEW, WERE NOT IN VIOLATION OF RABAT SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS. WEEKLY AL-LIWA DECLARES GOJ INTENDS TO "INCREASE SUPPORT FOR WEST BANK BROTHERS" BY RAISING FINANCIAL SUBSIDIES TO WEST BANK MUNICIPAL COUNCILS. PRESS FOR SEVERAL DAYS HAS DEVOTED HEAVY COVERAGE TO CURRENT WEST BANK DISTURBANCES SURROUNDING CONTROVERSY OVER AL-AQSA MOSQUE IN JERUSALEM, AND GOJ ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO DISPATCH DELEGATION TO ISLAMIC STATES  
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TO CONSULT ON PROBLEM. AD-DUSTOUR STATES IT "HAS LEARNED THAT

ALL SONS OF THE WEST BANK NOW RESIDENT IN THE EAST BANK" WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM (NEW MIKOTARY) CONSCRIPTION LAW ON ACCOUNT OF THE OCCUPATION CIRCUMSTANCES. FORMER GAZA STRIP RESIDENTS "WHO POSSESS TEMPORARY PASSPORTS" ALSO EXCLUDED. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL: SOME ITEMS ARE REGULAR FARE IN LOCAL MEDIA--E.G., AL-AQSA MOSQUE DISTURBANCES, GOJ WEST BANK SUBSIDIES WHICH GOJ DOES NOT OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCE BUT ALLOWS LOCAL PRESS TO MENTION FROM TIME TO TIME. THOSE ITEMS TAKE ON ADDED SIGNIFICANCE, IF ONLY FOR ADDED ATTENTION THEY ATTRACT, BECAUSE OF CURRENT CONTROVERSY OVER JORDAN'S INTENTIONS RE ITS ROLE ON WEST BANK FOLLOWING RECENT PARLIAMENTARY EVENTS IN AMMAN. REPORT OF EXCLUSION OF FORMER WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP RESIDENTS FROM NEW MILITARY CONSCRIPTION LAWS IN UNCONFIRMED AND APPARENTLY NOT BASED ON OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT. HOWEVER, IF TRUE, EXCLUSION WOULD AID KING HUSSEIN'S CLAIM THAT HE CONTINUES TO HONOR RABAT SUMMIT PRINCIPLES RE GOJ'S AUTHORITY OVER PALESTINIANS. SUCH AN EXCLUSION FROM DRAFT LAW, HOWEVER, WOULD BE DONE MORE FOR DOMESTIC POLITICAL AND SECURITY REASONS OF LIMITING PALESTINIAN PRESENCE IN JORDAN ARMED FORCES THAN FOR FOREIGN POLICY PURPOSES. IT COULD HAVE IMPORTANT IMPACE DOMESTICALLY ON RANGE OF EUQSTIONS AFFECTING PALESTINIANS IN JORDAN, MOST OF WHOM DO NOT YET WISH TO MAKE JORDANIAN-PALESTINIAN IDENTITY DECISIONS AS DISTINCT AS CONSCRIPTION LAW EXCLUSIONS WOULDIMPOSE. NEITHER DOES GOJ IN OUR VIEW. NOT CLEAR FROM PRESS REPORTS WHETHER EXCLUSION WOULD APPLY ONLY TO POST 1967 OR ALSO TO PRE-1967 WEST BANKERS NOW RESIDENT ON EAST BANK. EMBASSY PLANS FURTHER REPORT ON CONSCRIPTION LAW.  
PICKERING

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## Message Attributes

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